

REMARKS

Claims 53-104 were pending with claims 53, 68, 73, 76, 88, and 100 being independent claims. By this amendment, claim 76 is amended, claims 80, 81, 87 and 100-104 are canceled, and claims 105 – 115 are added. As a result, claims 53-79, 82-86, 88-99 and 105-115 are pending for examination with claims 53, 68, 73, 76, 88, and 105 being independent claims. No new matter is added.

Applicant submits this amendment is proper under Rule 116 because the amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance (reasons discussed herein); (b) does not raise new issues requiring further search or consideration; and (c) places the application in better form for appeal (if necessary).

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the finding that claims 53-75 and 88-99 are allowed and that claims 81 and 87 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 76 is amended to include the features of dependent claim 81 and intervening claim 80. Claim 105 is added and includes the features of independent claim 76 and canceled dependent claim 87. Accordingly, claims 76 and 105 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 are Overcome

The Office Action rejects claims 76, 79, 82, 83, 84, 85, and 86 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,935,027 (Yoon). Additionally, the Office Action rejects claims 76-78, 80, and 100-104 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,207,697 (Carusillo), U.S. Patent No. 5,895,395 (Yeung), and U.S. Patent No. 6,331,182 (Tiefenbrun). As discussed above, Applicant amends claim 76 to incorporate the allowable features of claims 81 and intervening claim 80. Additionally, Applicant submits new claim 105 that includes the features of claim 76 and canceled claim 87, which was indicated as being allowable. Applicant hereby cancels claims 100-104 without prejudice or disclaimer. As a result, each of these rejections are obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal is respectfully requested.

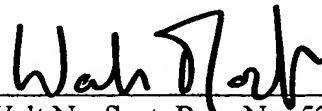
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Walt Norfleet, Reg. No. 52,078
Robert E. Hunt, Reg. No. 39,231
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

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